

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS**

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**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY****CALIFORNIA SELF-HELP HOUSING PROGRAM  
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS**

February 22, 2001

I am pleased to announce the availability of \$812,629 in funding for technical assistance grants under the Department's California Self-Help Housing Program (CSHHP). Technical assistance grants are available to eligible public agencies, private, nonprofit agencies or limited-equity housing cooperatives that provide technical and supervisory assistance to lower- and moderate-income households to build their homes. The goal of the program is to increase housing opportunities for lower- and moderate-income households by reducing the costs of new housing through the use of "sweat equity" (self-help).

Technical assistance grants are limited to \$100,000 per project with no more than twenty percent (20%) of the available funds awarded to any one sponsor. Twenty percent (20%) of the available funds are reserved for rural area projects for the twelve months following issuance of this NOFA. Applicants must be able to complete all grant-funded activities within the maximum two-year grant term.

Eligible administrative activities include, but are not limited to, loan packaging and counseling, construction training and supervision, and managerial, technical and clerical support directly related to the project. Applicants are advised to fully familiarize themselves with the Regulations relating to the Program. They can be found at California Code of Regulations, Title 25, Sections 7530-7542 and 7550-7556.

Applications will be reviewed for completeness and compliance with CSHHP statutes and regulations. Applications will then be evaluated and funding recommendations will be based upon the following factors:

- Applications for funds that serve the largest proportion of low-income households shall receive priority;
- The extent to which the applicant uses available federal, state and local resources in the project;
- The applicant's organizational capacity to carry out the project. The organization must demonstrate financial soundness. Applicants must provide evidence that the organization/staff have demonstrated experience in completing successful, self-help building projects and have the current capacity to successfully complete the proposed project;

- The project's feasibility;
- The project's cost effectiveness in terms of per unit self-help housing fund costs;  
and
- The extent to which project participants use self-help labor.

Applications will be accepted in two stages. In the first stage, the Department must receive a complete application package no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 23, 2001. Should there be more eligible applications than money available to fund all applications, those applications that assist the largest proportion of low-income households shall receive priority.

Should funds be available after the initial funding (see previous paragraph), applications will be accepted on an over-the counter basis. Proposals that meet eligibility criteria will be presented to the Department's Local Assistance Loan and Grant Committee, which meets on the last Wednesday of each month. The last meeting that will consider CSHHP applications for funding under this NOFA is June 27, 2001. All applications must be received a minimum of 20 working days prior to the monthly meeting, in which they will be presented.

No facsimiles will be accepted.

Applicants may write, call, or e-mail for an application package at the address or telephone number as follows:

Dee Franklin  
California Self-Help Housing Program  
Department of Housing and Community Development  
P. O. Box 952054, Room 390-8  
Sacramento, CA 94252-2054

(916) 445-0877

[dfrankli@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:dfrankli@hcd.ca.gov)

Thank you for your interest in the California Self-Help Housing Program.

Sincerely yours,

California Self-Help Housing Program  
Notice of Funding Availability  
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William J. Pavão  
Acting Deputy Director